

REMARKS

Claims 2 and 5 have been canceled. Amended claims 1, 3, 4, and 6, and new claims 7 and 8 are in this application.

A telephone discussion between the Examiner and Dennis Smid (one of the applicants' undersigned attorneys) was held on September 14, 2007. The applicants and Mr. Smid wish to thank the Examiner for his time and consideration for such discussion.

Claims 1 and 4 were rejected under 35 U.S.C. 102(a) as being anticipated by Yamazaki (U.S. 2003/0147636). Claims 2, 3, 5, and 6 were rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over Yamazaki, in view of Morofuji (U.S. Patent No. 6,704,502).

As discussed during the September 14 discussion, independent claims 1 and 4 have been amended herein to incorporate the features of claims 2 and 5, respectively. As such, and as an example, amended independent claim 1 now recites in part the following:

"wherein said correcting means includes surplus area detecting means for detecting a surplus area . . . , integrating means for integrating said camera shake detection signal and integration coefficient control means for dynamically changing an integration coefficient used to integrate said camera shake detection signal in response to a difference between a size of said surplus area and a magnitude of said camera shake detection signal." (Emphasis added.)

Accordingly, the integration coefficient control means of claim 1 may dynamically change an integration coefficient "in response to a difference between a size of said surplus area and a magnitude of said camera shake detection signal." As

discussed during the September 14 discussion, an example of a unit which may perform such feature is illustrated in Fig. 2 of the present application.

As also discussed during the September 14 discussion, it is respectfully submitted that the applied combination of Yamazaki and Morofuji does not appear to specifically disclose the above-identified feature of claim 1. In particular, in discussing the above 103 rejection with regard to claim 2, the Examiner appears to assert that element 118 of Fig. 1 of Yamazaki discloses an integrator which integrates a camera shake detection signal in response to a difference between a size of a surplus area and a magnitude of the camera shake detection signal. Although 118 of Yamazaki appears to be an integrator, Yamazaki does not appear to disclose integrating "in response to a difference between a size of said surplus area and a magnitude of said camera shake detection signal." Accordingly, even combining Yamazaki and Morofuji in the manner proposed by the Examiner does not appear to provide the device specifically recited in claim 1.

Thus, for at least the reasons discussed above, it is respectfully submitted that claim 1 is distinguishable from the applied combination of Yamazaki and Morofuji.

For reasons similar to or somewhat similar to those previously described with regard to claim 1, it is also respectfully submitted that amended independent claim 4 is distinguishable from the applied combination of Yamazaki and Morofuji.


Claims 3 and 6 and new claims 7 and 8 are dependent from one of independent claims 1 and 4. Accordingly, it is also respectfully submitted that dependent claims 3 and 6-8 are distinguishable from the applied combination of Yamazaki and Morofuji for at least the reasons previously described.

As it is believed that all of the rejections set forth in the Official Action have been overcome, favorable reconsideration and allowance are earnestly solicited. If, however, for any reason the Examiner does not believe that such action can be taken at this time, it is respectfully requested that the Examiner telephone applicant's attorney at (908) 654-5000 in order to overcome any additional rejections and/or objections which the Examiner might have.

If there are any additional charges in connection with this requested amendment, the Examiner is authorized to charge Deposit Account No. 12-1095 therefor.

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Respectfully submitted,

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